

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03792 101627Z

ACTION IO-14

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HA-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 EB-08
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TAGS: UNHRC, SHUM

SUBJECT: 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION--ITEM 13, SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY--NEUTRON BOMB

REF: 1. GENEVA 3496, 2. STATE 59071

1. DURING AFTERNOON MEETING MARCH 9 COMMISSION RESUMED
DISCUSSION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ITEM.

2. DISCUSSION OPENED BY GDR OBSERVER WHO DELIVERED A
REPLAY OF STATEMENTS MADE BY EASTERN BLOC IN PRIOR
DISCUSSION REPORTED GENEVA 2317. SOVIET DEL ZORIN
FOLLOWED BY EXPRESSING PLEASURE THAT A NUMBER OF
COMMISSION MEMBERS HAD VOICED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE
NEUTRON BOMB WHICH WAS LINKED TO THE MOST IMPORTANT
HUMAN RIGHT--THE RIGHT TO LIFE.

3. SIR KEITH UNWIN, IN A PREPARED, HARD HITTING STATE-
MENT, REBUTTED ZORIN'S CHARGES. WHILE AGREEING THAT
THE NEUTRON BOMB, WHICH NOT YET DEVELOPED, WOULD HAVE
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03792 101627Z

HORRIBLE DESTRUCTIVE POWER, IF EVER PRODUCED, UNWIN
POINTED OUT IT WOULD STILL BE MANY TIMES LESS DESTRUCTIVE
THAN ONE WARHEAD OF THE SOVIET SS-20, A WEAPON WHICH
ALREADY EXISTS. THE NEUTRON BOMB IS A FUTURE THREAT BUT
THE SS-20 IS A PRESENT THREAT WHICH ALL OF EUROPE LIVES
UNDER. UK DEL ALSO NOTED THE INCREASING NUMBER OF USSR
SUBMARINES LURKING "LIKE WOLVES" FROM THE NORTH SEA TO

THE INDIAN OCEAN. SIR KEITH ENDED HIS REMARKS BY STATING THAT THE HRC WAS NOT THE FORUM FOR A DISCUSSION ON DISARMAMENT BUT SINCE SOVIETS HAD RAISED ISSUE WITHOUT PRESENTING ALL THE FACTS HE FELT AN ACCURATE PRESENTATION WAS REQUIRED.

4. USREP MEZVINSKY SUPPORTED UK STATEMENT. IN VIEW OF COMPLETE FACTUAL REPLY BY UK, MEZVINSKY LIMITED REMARKS TO NOTING THAT HRC WAS NOT PROPER FORUM TO DISCUSS WEAPON CONTROL ISSUES. HE NOTED THAT THE ISSUE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND POINTED OUT THAT SOME NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE SOVIET ARSENAL WERE TWENTY THOUSAND TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN THE NEUTRON BOMB. USREP ALSO SAID THAT THE U.S. WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO SECURE A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY.

5. IN REPLY ZORIN ACCUSED NATO COUNTRIES OF EMBARKING ON DEVIANT COURSE OF ATTACKING THE SS-20 SO THEY COULD DEFEND THE NEUTRON BOMB, WHILE HE, ZORIN, HAD RAISED THE ISSUE PURELY ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. THE NEUTRON BOMB WAS DIRECTED AGAINST PEOPLE. IN REVERSE LOGIC HE CONCLUDED HIS REPLY BY CONTENDING THAT THE U.S. AND UK SHOULD NOT RAISE ISSUE OF SS-20 IN HRC.

6. DISCUSSION OF ITEM 13 WAS THEN CONCLUDED. NO RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED. VANDEN HEUVEL
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 03792 101627Z

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